

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/076,244	ALIYU ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Nema O Berezny	2813

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment, filed 6-9-04.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5 and 7-17.
3. The drawings filed on 13 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
 Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
 of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
 Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to Applicant's amendment, filed 6-9-04 which has been entered and considered. Cancellation of claim 6 is acknowledged.

Election/Restrictions

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 18-30 drawn to an invention non-elected with traverse in the reply filed on 1-20-04. In a telephone conversation with Steve Stanton on 8-26-04, permission was given to cancel said non-elected claims. Said claims 18-30 have accordingly been cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The rejection of claims 7-17 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph made in prior Office Action is hereby withdrawn, subsequent to corrections made by Applicant in amendment filed 6-9-04.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance for claims 1-5 and 7-17:

Dependent claim 6 was previously allowed, contingent upon re-writing said claim into independent claim form. Independent claim 1 has been re-written to incorporate dependent claim 6. Therefore, claims 1-5 are now in allowable form. Dependent claim 6 has been cancelled.

Claims 7-17 were conditionally allowed in previous Office Action, based upon correction of a 35 USC 112, first paragraph rejection to said claims and a subsequent search. Independent claims 7 and 13 have been corrected to overcome said 112 rejection of claims 7-17, and a current search has been conducted of all claims pending. The prior art of record does not teach or disclose or make obvious the invention of independent claims 1, 13, or 17, thereby placing this application into allowable form.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nema O Berezny whose telephone number is (571) 272-1686. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Whitehead, Jr. can be reached on (571) 272-1702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NB

Craig A. Thompson
CRAIG A. THOMPSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER